

Sheffield Agricultural Commission
September 14, 2021 – APPROVED

Present: Jim Kelly, Amelia Conklin, Kathy Orlando, and Bob Kilmer

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

Minutes:

The minutes from the 7/16/20 and 8/10/21 meetings were approved as amended.

Pollinator-Friendly Community Resolution:

Discussion of the Pollinator-Friendly Community Resolution bylaw ensued. Kathy O. had drafted a new version but it was decided to instead create an addendum, a practical “how-to” style document for landowners that would include resources and links for implementing pollinator-friendly practices. Ag Com members will submit link suggestions to Kathy O. who will create a draft of the new document.

Mail:

None.

Brochure:

Kathy O. was not able to email the updated list of farmers who had not yet responded to the survey as the digital file was corrupted. She will locate the physical files and bring the list to the next meeting.

Role of the Ag Com in reviewing Board of Health regulations:

Jim K. will attend the October Board of Health meeting as he was not able to attend the Board of Health meeting on Monday, September 13. The aim of attending the meeting is to make sure that the board is aware of the new 45-day review period for farm-related public health issues.

Treasurer report:

It was approved unanimously to spend \$500 of our FY 2021-22 budget to support the Mt. Everett Future Farmers of America (FFA) program. Amelia C. will be in touch with the FFA teacher to establish a connection and follow up about projects in need of funding. Spending of the remaining \$500 will be discussed at subsequent meetings; new budget ideas are welcome.

Locally important soils project:

Al Averill has concluded his soils survey and will soon send a report of findings.

New appointments:

Amelia C. asked Ian Allen who declined to serve due to lack of time. Bob K. will ask Ricky McLoughlin. Jim K. will ask Holly Aragi. Amelia C. will follow up with Anna Mack.

Local agricultural issues:

Amelia C. submitted a draft letter to the commission addressed to Larkin Farm regarding per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The letter was discussed. Amelia C. will create a final draft based on comments and suggestions made during the meeting. Amelia C. and Kathy O. will develop the final draft and mail to Larkin Farm upon completion.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 19 at 7 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Conklin